

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CENTRAL NEW JERSEY RECOGNIZES THE NEW JERSEY CHINESE CULTURAL STUDIES FOUNDATION

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to rise today in recognition of the New Jersey Chinese Cultural Studies Foundation (NJCCSF) and its ongoing dedication to promoting awareness of Chinese culture. I applaud the achievements this organization has made in helping many of central New Jersey's students pursue the study of Chinese language, history, and culture.

For the past two years, NJCCSF has been committed to promoting the study of Chinese culture by providing scholarships, awards, and financial aid to qualified New Jersey residents under the age of 25. Since its 1999 founding by the Overseas Hong Kong Association (U.S.A.), the NJCCSF has sponsored numerous non-profit and non-political events and activities geared toward fulfillment of its mission to preserve Chinese cultural heritage.

Successfully promoting Chinese culture within such a large and widespread community requires the dedication and skill of talented volunteers and the generosity of committed donors. The NJCCSF has certainly demonstrated its steadfast commitment to the cause of promoting Chinese cultural education through its provision of funds to a great number of university students throughout the state.

The NJCCSF has played an important role in helping to develop social, economic, and cultural ties among Hong Kong immigrants. It is often described as a "home away from home" for its members and their families. It established the NJCCSF for the purpose of more effectively promoting Chinese cultural awareness.

Once again, I applaud the efforts of the New Jersey Chinese Cultural Studies Foundation and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing its unwavering dedication to serving our community.

RECOGNITION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the great work of the Department of English at Howard University. On February 15, 2001, the Department of English at Howard University is

sponsoring its eighth annual Heart's Day Tribute, a day on which the Department annually commemorates its intellectual traditions. For a number of years, it has dedicated this special day to pay homage to those notable men and women who have contributed so richly to our lives. Past honorees have been writers Gwendolyn Brooks, Paule Marshall, Chinua Achebe, and James Baldwin. This year Heart's Day celebrates the work of one of the most provocative and most influential writers of the twentieth century—Amiri Baraka. As the leading voice of the Black Arts Movement, Baraka played a central role in helping to shape the parameters of a new cultural and intellectual rebirth. Through his brilliant essays, plays, poetry collections, and novels, he drove America to contemplate its deeper psyche. At the same time, he explored a world of rich redemptive black culture through such studies as *Blues People* (1963) and *Black Music* (1968). The Heart's Day tradition was inaugurated to support the Department's effort to complete funding for the Sterling A. Brown Endowed Chair. Professor Brown established the first formal study of African American literature in the academy. We salute Howard University and applaud them to continue to honor literary achievers.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ELECTRONIC COMMERCE ENHANCEMENT ACT

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, today, we are introducing the Electronic Commerce Enhancement Act. This bill represents a bipartisan effort to assist small- and medium-sized businesses move their operations into a comprehensive e-commerce environment. The goals of this legislation are twofold: (1) To assist small- and medium-sized manufacturers move into an e-commerce environment; and (2) improve the interoperability of the electronic transfer of technical information in the manufacturing supply chain.

This bill is the same text as H.R. 4429 the Electronic Commerce Enhancement Act, reported by the Science Committee and passed unanimously by the House in the 106th Congress. The Electronic Commerce Enhancement Act addresses real problems that small- and medium-sized businesses are still facing today. That is why I and Chairman Boehlert have decided to re-introduce this legislation.

One of the purposes of this legislation is to provide American small businesses with the information and knowledge they need to make smart decisions on e-commerce related purchases and services. This bill authorizes the Manufacturing Extension Partnership program

(MEP) to establish an electronic commerce pilot program at MEP Centers. This pilot program will allow MEP Centers to provide small manufacturers with the information they need to make informed purchases of e-commerce products and services.

The other main goal of this legislation is to address the issue of interoperability in the manufacturing supply chain. Adoption of e-commerce business practices within a supply chain is hindered by a lack of interoperability between software, hardware, and networks in exchanging product data and other key business information. The National Institute of Standards and Technology has supported the first phase of an interoperability program in the auto industry called STEP. In my home state of Michigan, STEP proved to be a highly successful and was strongly supported by the auto industry and manufacturers in their supply chain. These provisions authorize NIST to perform an assessment to identify critical enterprise integration standards and implementation activities for major manufacturing industries and to report to Congress on the appropriate role for the government to work in partnerships with industry.

This bipartisan legislation represents sound and reasonable policy and builds upon the proven track record of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership program and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

INTRODUCTION OF NORTHERN FRONT RANGE ROADLESS AREA PROTECTION ACT

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 8, 2001

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, Colorado's national forests are among the things that make our state a very special place to live. But as our population increases, so do the pressures on our forests.

That is why I strongly supported last month's adoption of new Forest Service rules for managing roadless parts of the national forests—areas that, in the words of the final environmental impact statement on the new rules, "possess social and ecological values and characteristics that are becoming scarce in an increasingly developed landscape."

I think those new rules are both timely and welcome. They make good sense as a way to protect natural resources, provide more diverse recreational opportunities and preserve some of the undisturbed landscapes that are such a special part of Colorado and other Western states.

This week, Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman acted to delay the effective date of

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